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/For information on the construction and form of houses, yards and farm buildings, see 17: Thurnher, EF6 Serbs file, category 116, pp. 74-79, passim and 86O-86Q./

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Yugoslavia EF1
Albania EG1
Rumania ED1
Bulgaria EE1

/For general information on houses and farm buildings, see 17: Thurnher, EF6 Serbs file, category 116, pp. 79-86./

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Yugoslavia EF1
Albania EG1
Rumania ED1 ●
Bulgaria EE1

/For the special terminological usage of "cylindrical tiles" in house construction, see 17: Thurnher, EF6 Serbs file, category 116, p. 87./

137 *sitifolia, S. aizoides, S. aizoon, Erysimum Witmanni, Phyteuma orbiculare, Silene Zawadskii, Onobrychis montana var. transilvanica, Cerastium alpinum, C. lanatum, Oxytropus campestris, Alsine gerardi, Campanula alpina, C. carpatica, Alyssum repens* (endemic), *Rhinanthus alpinus, Rhodiola rosea, Sedum atratum.* In the cracks in the rocks where moisture collected were noted *Pinguicula alpina, P. vulgaris, Saxifraga aizoides, S. androsacea, Viola biflora, Arabis alpina, Achillea Schurii, Biscutella laevigata,* and *Androsace lactea.*

It was obvious that to make a detailed study of this interesting mountain with its forest, plateau, gullies, scree slopes, etc., and other varying ecological factors, a much longer time would have been necessary than was possible under the conditions of our visit to the country.

The Walk by Way of Bilbor, Paltiniş, Vatra Dornei, etc., and down the Bistrita River by Timber Raft to Broşteni (Brosceni).

133 This interesting excursion was made by a number of the
233 party, and afforded a very good opportunity of seeing the country as some fifty miles were covered on foot in two days. We passed over fine slopes and through delightful valleys with their meadows bedecked with many species of flowering plants. There was time during such a walk only to notice the most salient features of the vegetation. We, however, saw hillsides where sheep were grazed quite to the top, also
[343] a mountain dairy where they were being milked. The temporary shelters for those cropping the hay in the valleys at some distance from their usual habitations were interesting, and the whole family appeared to sleep there and cook their meals till the area had been cleared.

531 During our stay at Vatra Dornei, through the kindness of
341 the mayor and the prefect of the district, we were taken by car over a mountain pass down to Campulung and from thence to the wonderful walled monastery of Moldoviţa (Moldawitza) with fine sixteenth-century frescoes covering
313 its walls. The chief point of interest from a vegetation point of view was the fine spruce forests which we saw and in which felling was in progress, the logs being pushed down the mountain side to timber carts at the bottom. The next day we had evidence of the importance of the lumbering industry

342

A plan of this farmstead is shown in Fig. 10, with which it should be compared.

German Farms in Crisfelu

[facing page 42]

infancy. The mass of the people—the peasants—still supply their own modest wants almost entirely. The women make, in their own homes, the garments required by the household for summer and winter, using home-spun wool and home-woven cotton. A village expert fashions the leather embroidered coats worn by men and women alike. In the mountains, often the foot-gear is still of local manufacture. (Hats and shoes are mainly imported from the town, however.) Houses are made of locally-felled and sawn timber, and all the household utensils and furniture, except the crockery, are made in the village.

THERE is little accumulated capital in the country, and it is natural that modern industrial developments should tend to be based on local raw materials and traditional skill. Home-grown wheat, maize and barley feed the flour-milling and brewing industries which are well developed. There are about 400 large flour mills, steam driven and capable of producing graded flour. These are mainly in the Old Kingdom and grind wheat chiefly. The wheat districts of Bessarabia and Bucovina have a number of modern mills, as well as a large number of windmills, but the maize districts still use the old-fashioned water-mills, which can only grind coarse meal. The brewing industry has been encouraged by the government, partly with the idea of reducing the consumption of the potent alcoholic beverage, "ţuica", which the peasants distil from plums. Most of the breweries are either in Bucureşti and Iaşi or in one of the larger Saxon towns of Transylvania. Potato and maize spirit are made on a large scale, particularly in Transylvania, for export.

FOR POTTERY MAKING the Dobrogea supplies a good kaolin, but the industry has not reached a high stage of development, although the ancient peasant pottery has much merit in form and decoration. This is due in part to lack of suitable fuel for the furnaces.

WITH the acquisition of Transylvania, Roumania has become independent in the matter of that most important constructional commodity, cement.

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY is still backward. The post-war development is chiefly in the Banat, where, under protection, silk, artificial silk, cotton and wool have made

133 material eroded therefrom being spread out fanwise along
361 the edge of the alluvium. Higher up, small alp-like terraces appear, giving place to precipitous slopes once more where calcareous rocks of Triassic and Jurassic age occur.

132 CONCERNING climate and vegetation little need be added to
361 the accounts already given of the Eastern Carpathians as a whole. In the case of climate the most important features to be borne in mind are the risk of late summer storms that limit the ripening period for grain, and the winter snowfall which creates a close season for agriculture.

THE VILLAGE.

361 CORBU has been tentatively classified as a "dispersed" type of village, though it is clear from the photographs (Plate IX) that the narrowness of the valley has rather limited the extent of the dispersion and has given rise to a plan resembling that of the "street village" of Western Europe. Closer examination, however, will reveal a certain looseness of structure, especially where a slight widening of the valley occurs near the confluence of a tributary stream, and it is very probable that if the same village had been founded in a broad flat upland area the houses would have been spread out as in Bilbor (see Plate I).

PEASANT HOUSES.

342 A GROUP of typical Roumanian farmsteads is illustrated in Plate X whilst the plan on page 67 shows in detail the lay-out of the one depicted on page 43. The principal features in each case are clear. The dwelling houses, of which there are frequently two to a farm, can usually be distinguished by their bright colour-washed walls. There is an abundance of local stone, but the crystalline rocks that are nearest to hand are very intractable, and, although they are employed for the foundations, the superstructure is almost invariably of wood. In Lower Borsec, which is just visible in the distance in Plate IX, an outcrop of Travertine provides a much more easily-worked material, and is very freely employed, but its use does not appear to extend into Corbu. The walls of the Corbu houses are usually built of roughly-squared, less frequently of sawn, timber, to which, in the better-class houses, laths are nailed to form a key for

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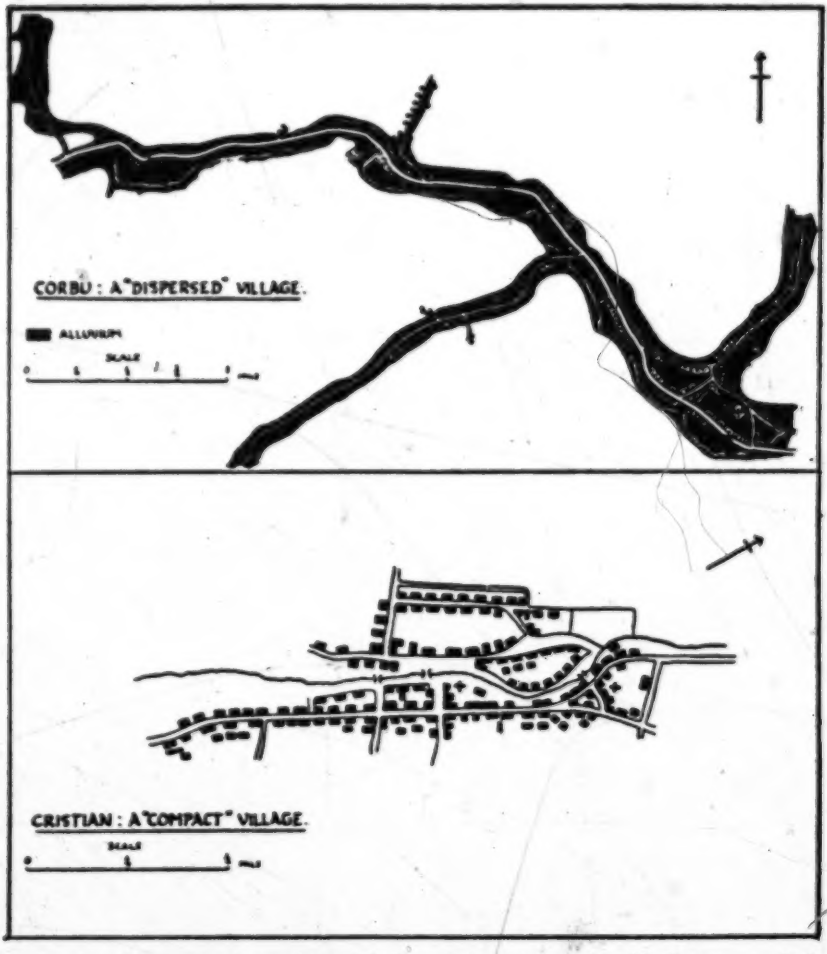

FIGURE 8. The amorphous plan of Corbu contrasts strongly with the more orderly and compact village of the plain. Cristian is near Braşov.

342 the plaster with which the exterior is then coated. In the poorer houses the gaps between the timbers are merely caulked with clay before a colour-wash is applied.

THE most popular type of roofing material is shingles, which is a welcome contrast to the sheet iron of the plain, though perhaps less picturesque than the steeply-pitched roofs of thatch that are a feature of other mountainous parts of the country. On some of the houses, usually those of the poorer inhabitants, shingles are replaced by longer boards which sometimes extend from ridge to eaves, all three types being illustrated in Plate X.

4:Fleure S-5 (no date)1936 EDI Rumania EDI

PLATE X

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Hay meadows on deforested slopes above the limits of cultivation at Corbu. Although this is the upper section of a valley tributary to that of the Bistricioara, it is much broader than the narrowly constricted lower section. *Photo: R. A. Fellows.*

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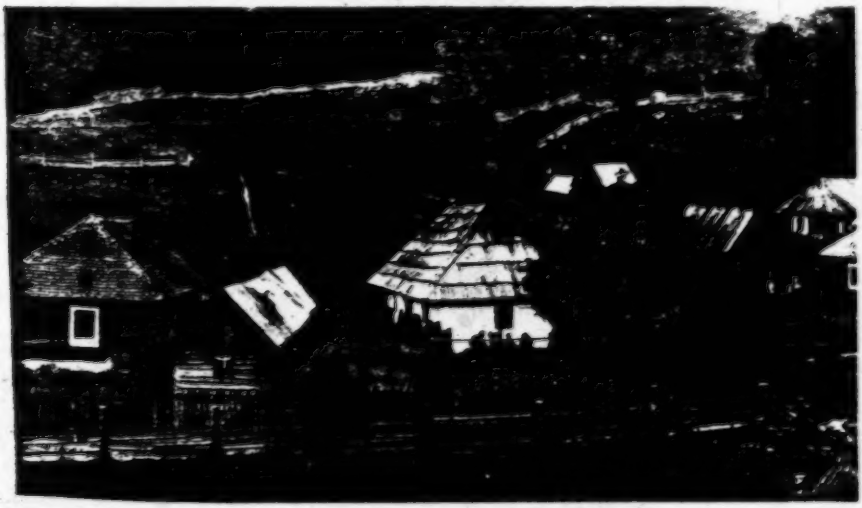

Typical Roumanian farmsteads in Corbu. The houses are roofed with shingles, the outbuildings with boards. The house in the centre has the characteristic louvre in place of chimney, and its walls are of timber with plaster covering. Hemp is drying on the verandah. The mud caulking in the outbuilding is clearly visible. *Photo: R. A. Fellows.*

[facing page 65]

A MARKED FEATURE is the comparative absence of chimneys. The cooking is done in an outhouse, no doubt to minimise the risk of fire, but the dwelling house is generally heated by a stove, the smoke from which passes up through the ceiling in an iron pipe and then escapes into the open air through holes cut in the gable ends or, in the case of a hipped roof, through a small louvre.

THE OUTHOUSES are for the most part simple structures and call for no special comment.

CLEANLINESS and simplicity are the keynotes of the domestic economy. Household effects are kept down to a minimum, but upon their manufacture an enormous amount of time and skill is lavished, especially in the case of textiles. The skilfully-woven designs on the tapestries and pillows shown Plate XVI are an illustration of such effort.

POPULATION.

ACCORDING to the 1930 census Corbu had a population of 1,563, distributed among 358 households. The majority of the inhabitants are, of course, Roumanians, for the commune lies right on the fringe of the Szekler country. In spite of having lived in close association with the Roumanians for many generations, however, the Szeklers are easily distinguished by their dress, their physical type (though this is by no means an infallible guide), their adherence to Roman Catholicism, and, of course, their language. Although culturally there is an appreciable difference between the Roumanian and Szekler peasantry, there is to-day an even wider gap between these folk and the Tsiganes or Gipsies who form a much smaller, though very interesting, minority. Generally speaking, the Roumanians contribute a dark, and the Szeklers a fair, element to the broad-headed population, whereas the Gipsies are for the most part distinctly long-headed and very dark. There is an equally well-marked difference on economic grounds, for both Roumanians and Szeklers are essentially peasants, whereas the Gipsy, being landless, is compelled to seek a livelihood by trading, unless he be either smith or musician, following the traditional pursuits of his forbears (see Plate VI).

THE HOUSES occupied by Gipsies, while resembling in style those of the peasants, can usually be recognised by the

CORBU

PLAN OF PEASANT FARMSTEAD

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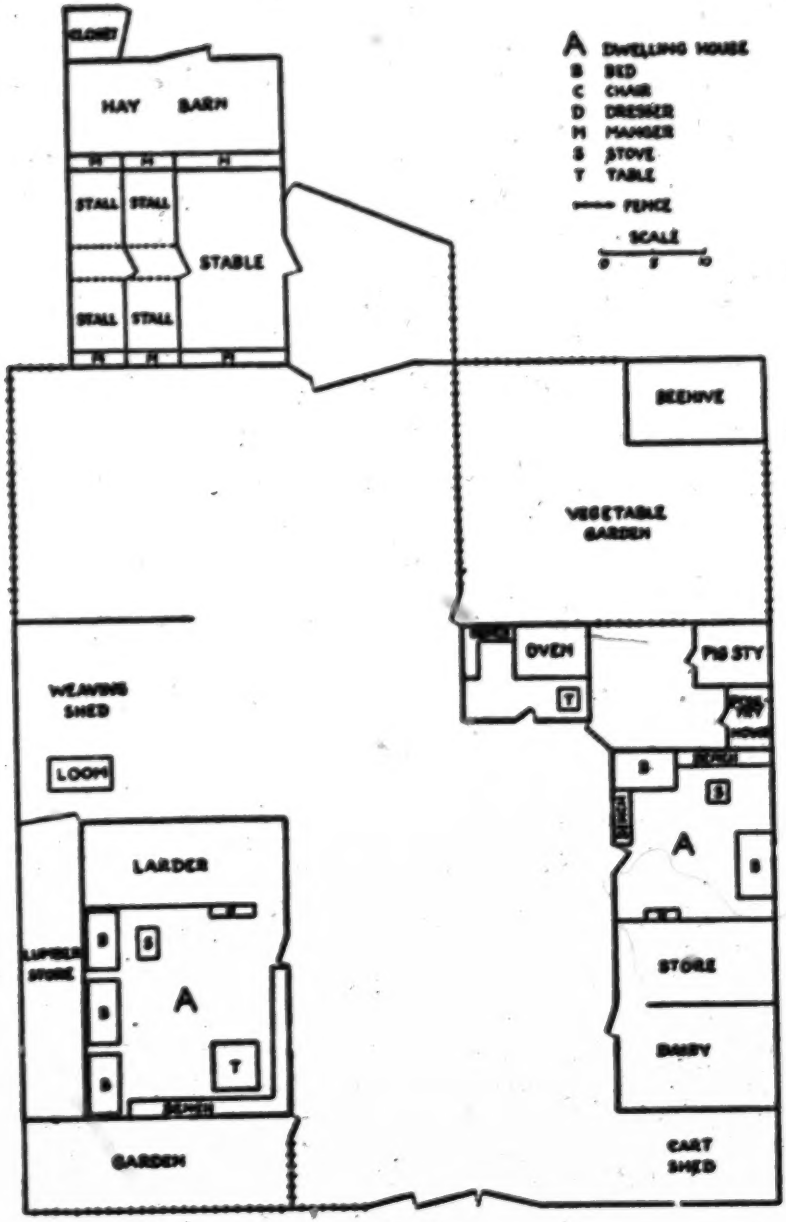

Fig. 10

342 absence of small fields, although a vegetable garden is a
563 normal feature. Most of them are grouped together in a small colony on a piece of steeply-sloping ground near the western end of the village that could not be used for agricultural purposes, thus emphasising the fact that they constitute an exotic element living on the outskirts of the community (see Plate XII and Fig. 11).

311 THERE is no emigration from Corbu, but the tendency is to extend cultivation by forest-cutting. A good deal of land in the Bistricioara valley is still available.

II. FARMING ACTIVITIES

THE LAND AND INHERITANCE.

428 FARMING in Corbu is carried on essentially for subsistence
241 rather than for profit. Large-scale cultivation with its attendant economies would in any case be difficult in such an environment, but it is rendered impossible by a land tenure system, intimately bound up with laws of inheritance, which permits the subdivision of land from generation to generation. On the death of the father the widow receives a quarter of the estate, the remainder being divided equally amongst all the children. Alternatively, the latter take over their portion on marriage, but the result in each case is the same—the peasant holdings not only decrease in size but portions of the same holding may be widely separated. For it does not even follow that all the land surrounding a farmstead necessarily belongs to the family residing there. It did, of course, when the holding was first formed, but marriage has in most cases added complications. A portion of the holding, for example, may belong to a married daughter living elsewhere in the village and her husband will then come periodically to cultivate it as part of his estate. Much time is wasted in this way, so wherever possible an interchange of plots is arranged, especially where the parties to the marriage belong to different villages.

423 IN a register covering about 207 hectares of privately owned land there were 133 parcels registered, sometimes more than one in the name of a particular person. Of the 133, 56 were less than one hectare each, but at least 8 of these parcels were accessories to other holdings and those owners

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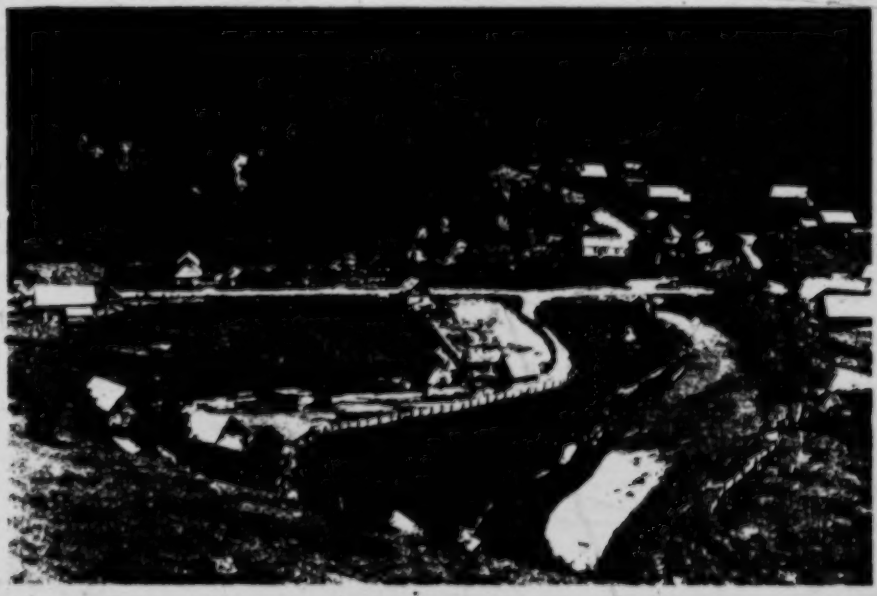

This is part of the area mapped in Fig. 11. The photograph is taken from the top of the porphyry spur shown in Fig. 9. *Photo: R. A. Pelham.*

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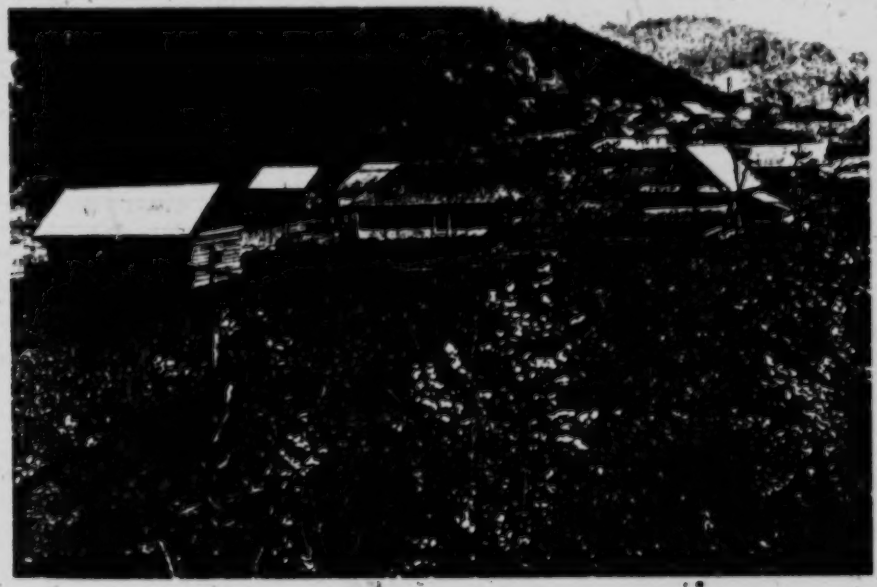

A peasant holding at Corbu in process of sub-division. A son about to marry is erecting a house (seen on left) on his share of his father's land. The parental farmstead extends across the right-hand half of the picture. A strip of maize is seen in the foreground and a small patch of hemp on the extreme left, close to the new house. For plan of holding see Fig. 11. *Photo: R. A. Pelham.*

[facing page 68]

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PLATE XII

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A Gipsy smith and his family. The building on the left is the forge.

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The Gipsy colony in Corbu. The houses are clustered together on a steep slope and although resembling in style those of the Roumanian peasants are easily distinguished therefrom by not having any arable land attached.

Photo: R. A. Pelham.

[facing page 69]

SCATTERED over the commune are eight "stâne" or temporary summer settlements which are all situated between 400 and 800 metres above the village. The stâna itself is a simple affair, consisting of a log hut which affords living accommodation for the shepherds and acts as a dairy and store-house, together with the folds into which the animals are driven for milking. The one illustrated had a population of three men and two boys, all Roumanians, 350 sheep and 20 cows, as well as a few pigs, the only animals left in the village being the one or two milch cows retained at each farm for family needs and the draught animals (see Plate XIII).

THE change from winter to spring takes place very rapidly during the second fortnight of April, and the ascent to the dairies is made at the end of that month or early in May. Before the animals are taken up the milk yield of the cows is tested in order to determine the apportionment of the cheese made therefrom, but the ewes' milk cheese is distributed on the basis of the number of sheep belonging to each peasant. Shortly after the ascent the village priest performs the ceremony of blessing each stâna in turn, and before the end of May the sheep are sheared by peasants who go up specially for the purpose, the wool being brought down to the village on horseback.

SINCE the summer pastures are communal property their administration is in the hands of an assembly of heads of families which assesses the rent to be paid for the season—generally 12-15 lei for a sheep and 50 lei for a cow. The money thus received forms a fund from which the shepherds are paid for their services. Each peasant makes personal arrangements with the senior shepherd as to the amount of cheese he will require for household purposes, any surplus going into a common stock which is marketed at the end of the season. Any disputes that arise are settled by arbitration in the presence of the mayor when the shepherds return to the village. This takes place during the latter part of October, the descent of each group being celebrated by minor festivities at which the shepherds are the guests of honour. The general feast held when all are down marks the official end of the season's activities.

UPON their return to the village the cows are immediately stabled, but each peasant splits up his sheep into two groups,

342 · 4:Fleure S-5 (no date)1936 EDl Rumania EDl

A Corbu "stâna" occupied by transhumant flocks during the summer season. A deforested portion of the mountain 2,000 feet above the village has been set aside for pasturage. The buildings are very simple. The large hut on the left combines the functions of dairy and dwelling house, the smaller sheds in the compounds being used for milking purposes. *Photo: R. A. Pelham.*

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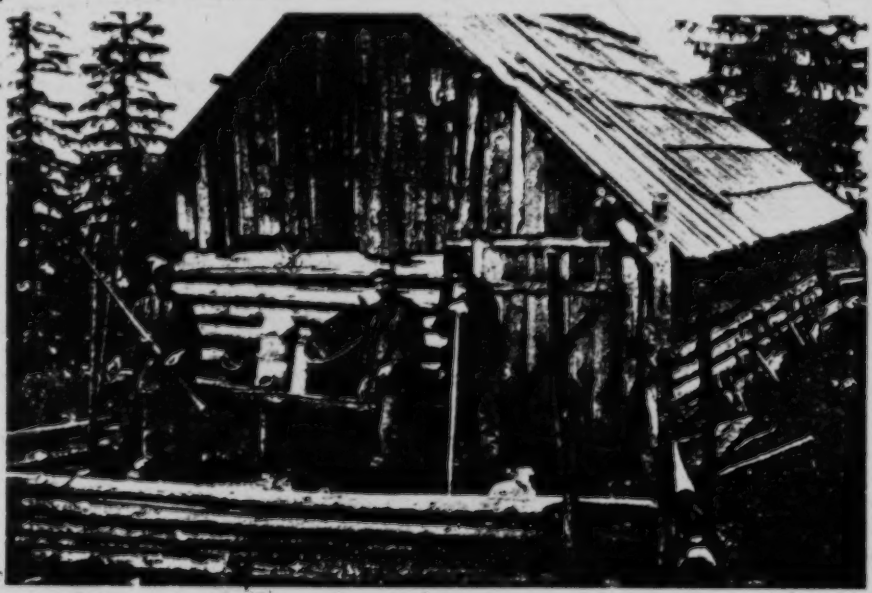

Close-up view of dairy showing adult members of "stâna" with their utensils. The man on the left is holding a horn. *Photo: R. A. Pelham.*

[facing page 72]

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NOTES ON THE HOUSES IN CURTEA DE ARGEŞ

342 THE SMALL TOWN of Curtea de Argeş has from time to time suffered destruction from fire, in consequence of which there is very little to be found in the way of early buildings.

The oldest house in the town is that occupied by the present mayor and his family, and they claim that their ancestors have held the property since about 1630, when it was built.

The illustration (op. p. 28) shows it to be a well-built brick structure with a fairly steep roof of dark brown shingles. The brickwork is whitewashed and is very solidly constructed. The present family uses the entire first floor as their dwelling-house. At some recent period part of the ground floor was converted into a restaurant. The spacious rooms under the balcony are used partly for the purpose of a store and the mayor has a private office there.

353 THE DWELLING has a peculiar and individual charm. The furniture is mostly in the traditional peasant style, and much of it is similar to that found in the simple houses, but shows a superior workmanship and quality. The bed, as in the living-room of every peasant, has retained its traditional place in this house, though in this case its purpose to-day is that of a divan or sofa. The coverings and cushions, hand-embroidered, and the woven wall-hangings round the bed, are such as may be seen throughout the countryside, though richer in the materials used and more artistic than most of those to be seen in the peasants' cottages, where often the primary colours are used with little attempt to grade the design by the use of intermediate shades. Small decorated patterns are to be found on the walls. The large living-room has an elaborate and beautifully-painted ceiling—a thing rarely found in the [336] country houses. Modern sanitation, water-supply, etc., have [291] been put into the house. The women of the present family choose to maintain peasant tradition in dress.

342 The spacious balcony, approached from the courtyard, serves for reception of guests in summer. Here meals are taken, and a good many of the household occupations are carried on.

2 [See pp. 28a (HRAF paging now) -- Analyst]

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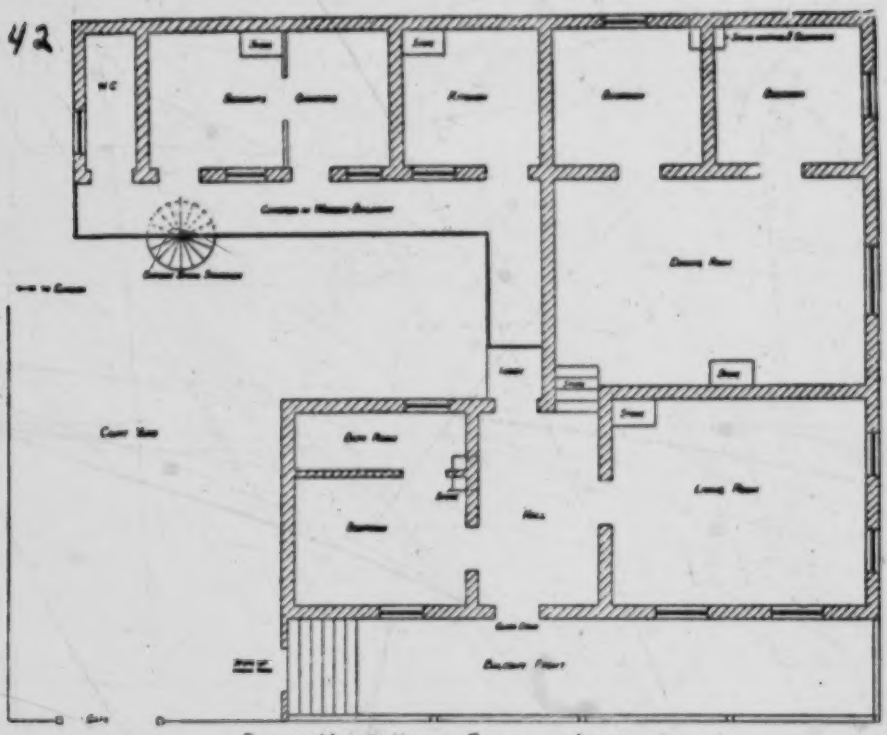

PLAN OF MAYOR'S HOUSE - CURTEA de ARGES

Measured by the Mayor and Miss Tatton *Drawn by M. Tatton*

THE EXTENSION shown on the left includes a kitchen, laundry and servants' quarters, added to meet the needs of the present family. Below these rooms are stables and storeplaces. There are several small houses in the town, all among the older buildings, which follow a similar plan. We examined about thirty houses in Curtea, and give below descriptions of two of these, which are typical. In addition, numerous photographs were taken, which illustrate how the houses vary in detail.

●●●

THE FIRST DWELLING is of a very common type found on the outskirts of the town. We singled out this one for its added

342

The House of the Mayor, Curtea de Argeș

352

The interior of the Mayor's salon, Curtea de Argeș

[Page 28a]

PLATE IV

347

Note. The walls of the house are 85 cm. in thickness; the rooms 2 metres 15 cm. high; windows 60 cm. in width and 90 cm. high; the balcony is 2 metres 85 cm. above the ground.
(House A). Photo by H. J. Howard.

House in Potters' Street, Curtea de Argeș, showing how the potter has used his art in the decoration of his own house. Plaques and tiles of pottery let in plaster of side of house. Plaques and tiles of pottery set let in plaster of front balcony.
(House B). Photo by H. J. Howard

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34

(B) House in Potters' Street, Curtea de Argeș.
For plans see page 289.

It being Sunday the potter was not actually at work, but was wearing his finely embroidered shirt.
(House B.) Photo by H. J. Howard

[page 286]

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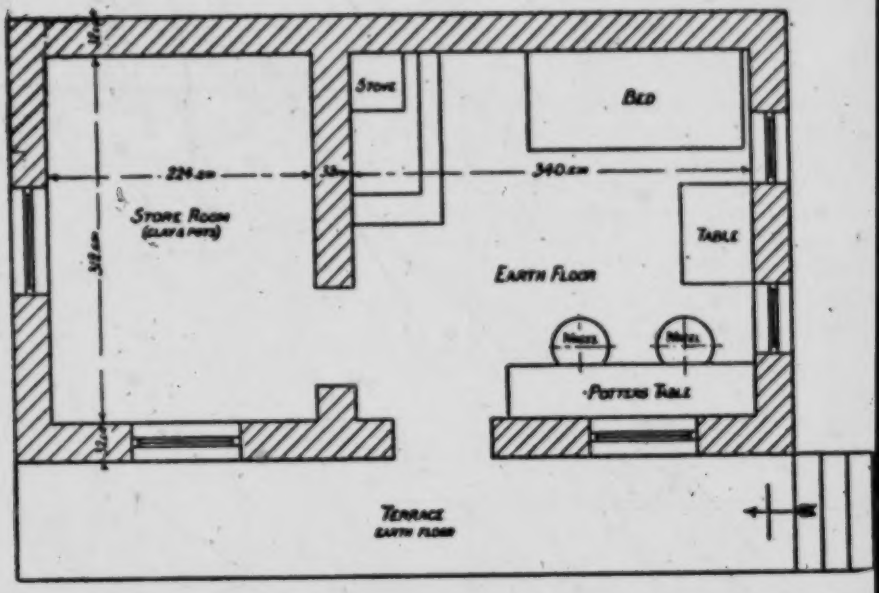
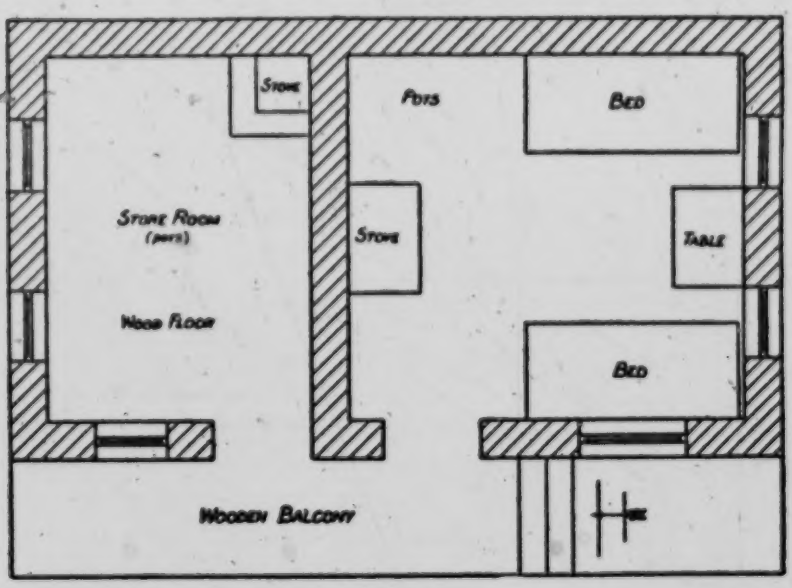


House B

— Ground Floor Plan —

Drawn by M. Tatton

A House in the Potters' Street (see illustrations opposite).



House B

— First Floor Plan —

Drawn by M. Tatton

A House in the Potters' Street

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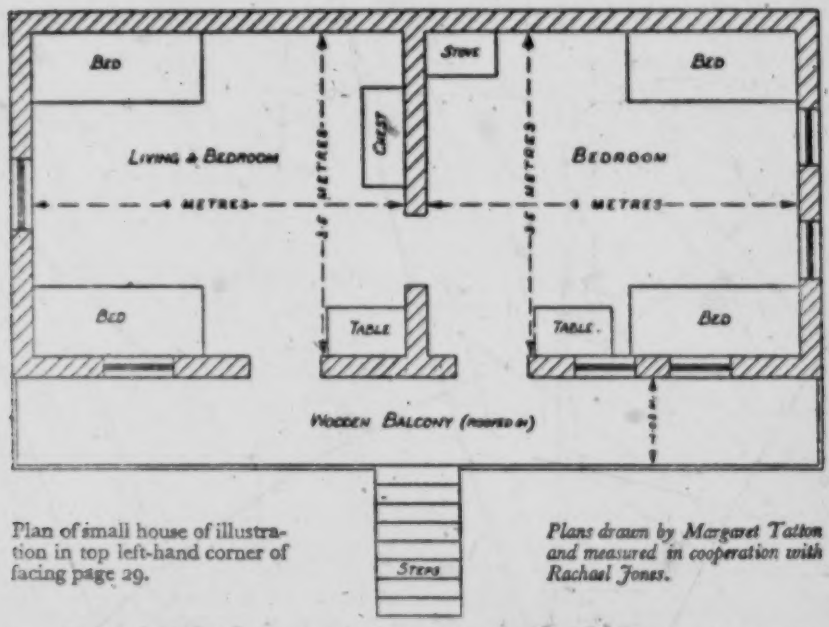

Plan of small house of illustration in top left-hand corner of facing page 29.

Plans drawn by Margaret Tatton and measured in cooperation with Rachael Jones.

583

interest in that its present occupants were busy over the forthcoming marriage of their daughter (age sixteen), and had many lovely things in the way of embroideries, clothes, cushion covers, etc., part of the bride's dowry, which we examined. The interior of the room on the right shows the girl's own bed, covered with the things she has made and embroidered to take to her future home. (House A, Plate IV.)

THESE WERE NOTED as follows: 10 pillows (ornamental), 12 sheets, 6 woven rugs for wall or floor, 2 woollen bed-covers (like long blankets), 4 woven bed-covers (patterned), 6 woven bed-covers(plain), and 20 towels (decorated). In addition, she was embroidering her own dresses and under-garments. Much of the work was quite fine and well done. We were informed that this dowry was a fair average one for a girl from this type of home.*

342 THE HOUSE ITSELF, which was built about fifty years ago, had brick and plaster walls, whitewashed throughout. Many of the houses are colour-washed, bright blue being a popular colour. The floors were of wood, as were also the steps leading up to the balcony. Chickens were housed in the vault under ooo the left room. There was a large garden, most of the ground

* Inventory by Rachel Jones.

1 [see pp. 30 a (HRAF pagination) -- Analyst]

342

A small house in Curtea de Arges of similar type to Mayor's house.

being given to growing maize and vegetable marrows, though there were various small fruit-trees. The open space in front of the house had a summer kitchen. These out-door kitchens are used by almost all the peasants where an open space or yard of any sort provides available space (see illustration opposite).

THE SECOND HOUSE which we visited and examined is illustrated facing page 29 (B). This shows a well-built structure and represents the type which is more common in the town itself. The walls, which are whitewashed, are of brick and rubble and have an average thickness of 32 cm. There is a good shingled roof with good carved wooden decoration under the eave. The floor of the terrace is earth, and the entire structure of the balcony is of wood, without paint or stain. The end of the house has a pleasing finish in the form of a moulded cornice and pilasters (B).

THIS HOUSE is occupied by two families; the men, both being potters, share the potter's table (two wheels) in the lower house.

2 [See pp. 30 b (HRAF pagination) -- Analyst]

2 [See pp. 286 (HRAF pagination) -- Analyst]

342 352 THE CHARACTER of this house is of the simplest. The walls are whitewashed, the floors bare, and there is practically no furniture other than wooden beds and tables. The stoves are of porcelain, and wood or charcoal is used as fuel. The usual practice is for potters to share a kiln with their neighbours. The one illustrated here was the property of this particular house and was placed in its yard (Plate IV, B).

[463] THE FIGURES given by the mayor show that there are 101 potters in Curtea de Argeş. We visited a good number and found that most of them live and work under conditions similar to those illustrated here. The potters for the most part occupy houses in one area of the town. A fine clay is found locally and can be had for nothing, but it must be collected by the potter himself. This clay he stores in his house (see upper plan on page 29).

THE POTS vary in design within a limited range. They are mostly of a buff colour, with the main part of the outside unglazed. The inside is glazed brown and the rim is usually covered with a bright green glaze, which makes the pots very attractive; some pots have splashes of green in parts or all over them. Most of the pots are marketed locally and can be bought at a low price. The pot is often made porous so that evaporation may keep the water cool. Pots are sent to other [438] places near Curtea, but are not sufficiently strong, we were informed, for long-distance transport.

341 NEW DEVELOPMENT in housing is making steady progress. Some houses are still being constructed on the traditional lines, half brick half timber, and the "eye" in the roof, which is common in the older houses, is not necessarily omitted in the modern roof; tiles, however, are replacing the shingle. The wooden balcony is disappearing in the larger type of house and is being replaced by a brick verandah. These brick verandahs are built with ornate columns, sometimes with elaborate capitals. The classical influence is, in fact, strong, for some houses have a pediment, and in one ambitious dwelling the capitals were gilded and the pediments contained gilded decorations. The simple wooden window frames are now little used, and are replaced by elaborate mullions. Wall decorations in elaborate stucco or stencil work and ornamental details on doors are a common feature of the new houses. Most of the new houses are detached and stand in their own gardens. M. E. T.

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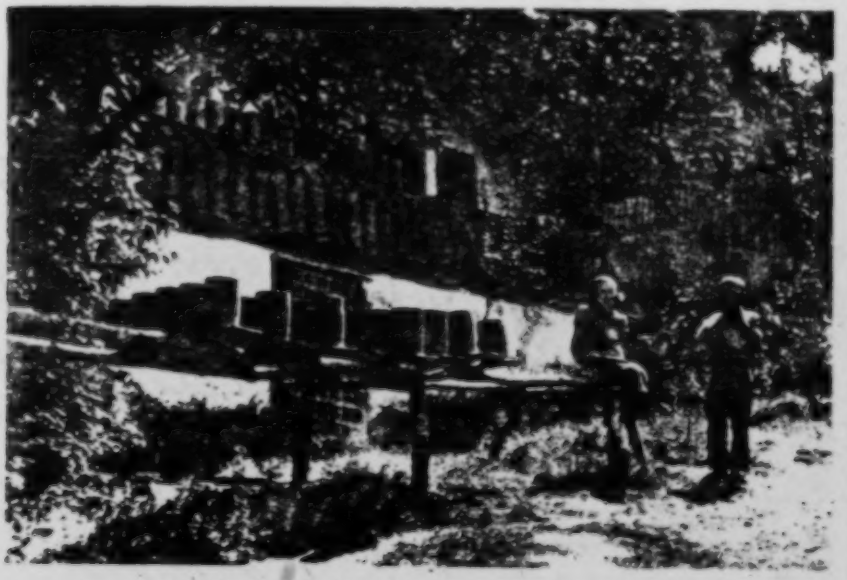

Curtea de Arges. A house in Potters' Street. Notice jars, etc., drying in the sun ready for baking.
Photo by H. J. Howard

29. 377

Women separating hemp fibres from the stems after they have been retted and dried.

[Page 32-a]

5; Fleure S-5 (no date)1939 ED! Rumania EDI

PLATE X

313

Kumpana. Forestry. As the logs pass down the "shoot" a team on the elevated platform sees that logs of even lengths are let out at side of "shoot" for loading on to the trucks seen on left-hand side. *Photo by H. J. Howard*

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342

The Argeș District. Visit to Forestry section (Kumpana). Inside of forestry hut, showing large open stove for cooking meals. Huge logs of wood were being burnt on a stone hearth. There were sleeping bunks for the lumber-jacks all round the sides of the hut. *Photo by H. J. Howard*

[page 406]

5: Fleure S-5 (no date)1939 EDI Rumania EDI

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Interior of Stână Găujoara. *Drawn by P. Stinson, after E. E. Evans*

Interior of Stână Cîrbuncle. *Drawn by P. Stinson, after E. de Martonne*

See page 51

471 the shepherds and cheese-maker. These dues, amounting to
233 some 10 or 20 lei per sheep, are worked out each year by a committee which regulates the financial side of the trans-humant economy.

234 EACH STÂNĂ[1] has its baciu or cheese-maker, who is paid by
233 the commune. In some districts this scheme is varied by
471 arrangements which must represent modifications of the old economy of collective shepherding. Occasionally a large farmer may be proprietor of a stână and may possess enough sheep to run his own pasturing, in which case he may either hire a cheese-maker or fill that rôle in person. Or he may let his stână to the highest bidder, who pays in cheese obtained from the flock. From this it is a short step to the emergence of the middleman who, possessing no sheep himself, rents a pasture and guarantees to return an agreed quantity of cheese per sheep to those who send him their stock.

233 BEGINNING OUR account with the descent from the mountains,
221 we find that the uppermost pastures are abandoned by the last day of August, and the return downhill takes place during the first fortnight in September, being normally completed by September 14th (The Feast of the Cross). The sheep are driven to the local pastures until the maize crop is gathered, when they are penned on the stubble. Movement uphill begins about the middle of April and is completed by May 1st in an average year, St. George's Day (April 23rd) being a central date. Each peasant is responsible for driving his own sheep, using recognized tracks which tend to follow the watersheds. The sheep thus avoid the deep valley-crossings and can avail themselves of occasional natural clearings for temporary halts in a journey which may last a week. These are points of some importance in connection with the study of ridgeway roads generally.

● 342 THE SHEPHERD'S hut is a log-cabin erected on a single foundation-course of boulders. It is roofed with shingles or long planks; the gable is boarded above the level of the eaves, and a gap at the apex serves in place of chimney. Scarcely any metal is used in the construction of these summer dwellings, which serve as dairies and storehouses in addition to providing shelter and sleeping-places for the shepherds.
○○○ The furniture is of the simplest, but much ingenuity is

1 [for explanation see footnote 50 pp. 49, cat. 116 -- Analyst]

12: Kormos S-4, 5 (no date) 1944
ED1 Rumania ED1

565 ease of behaviour, a keen sense for music and popular art and a dogged belief in its capacity to achieve progress.

The life of the Rumanian peasant is simple and [262] hard. His main nourishment consists of *Mamaliga*, a dish prepared of maize-flour, similar to the Italian *Polenta*. This forms his staple diet; meat and other [272] luxuries are very rare indeed. The national drink is *Tuica* (brewed from plum juice). The Rumanian [291] men are dressed in white trousers and a long white tunic fastened by a belt, a short jacket, and a fur cap or hat. Footwear, if any, consists of simple leather sandals strapped to the legs, called *Opinci*, similar to those of the Greek and Yugoslav peasants. In the comparatively rich regions short boots are worn. Gay embroidery, whose colouring and pattern vary according to districts, adorns all garments, especially the women's shirts and headcloths, and the aprons [342] which they wear fore and aft. In contrast to their gay dress the houses of the Rumanian peasants are usually small, badly built cottages of sun-dried brick and straw, whitewashed and occasionally [346] decorated with woodwork. The churches too are built in a similar fashion except in the mountain districts where stone and wood are used.

795 **RELIGION.** Most Rumanians belong to the Orthodox Church, but many Transylvanian Rumanians are Uniates, that is, Catholics of the Byzantine Rite. They form a link between the Latin and Orthodox 659 Churches. The Rumanian Orthodox Church is strongly national. The Uniate Church was used in the past by the Hungarian rulers of Transylvania as a means of assimilating the Rumanians in the Hun-

Bulgaria EE1
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B
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233 with straw roofs. They are rarely plastered with mud. In western Sredna Gora, transportable sheep pens are used (Gellert, 1937: 189).

RUMANIA

R
34 In Rumania there exists a marked difference between settlements
175 in the lowlands and those of the Carpathian Mountain region. While
179 topography and the presence or absence of such building materials as
648 stone, wood or clay are important factors, political considerations also played a significant role. With the beginning of the 18th century Greek influence became predominant in Moldavia and Wallachia. The Porte set up Greek rulers in these principalities, thus in reality the Rumanians were as much under Turkish dominion, although indirectly, as were the people of the Balkans. It was only after the rebellion of 1821 that Rumanian rulers were reinstated. During all periods of unrest and foreign invasion the mountains and forests served as areas of refuge; the Serbian hajduk has his counterpart in the Rumanian haydoich (Stratilesco, 1907: 30-34).

R
361 Location and Types of Settlements. The older settlements were
R in the nature of hamlets (catin). These were generally not built on
[133] the top of hills, but rather in depressions, on the edge of forests, and away from the military roads (Grothe, 1907: 54). In the hilly regions of Oltenia and Moldavia the villages were located close to a river or on the slope of a hill. Farmsteads are generally spaced fairly far apart, in no definite order. Villages may extend over two or three hills facing one another (Stratilesco, 1907: 206).
R Villages in the Wallachian plains are located close to the roads.
[491] The prevalent type is the road village; buildings are located on either side of the highway which forms the main road of the village. Larger villages may have additional cross-roads (Jänecke, 1918: 7).
R While mountain villages average a population of 350, the largest
[621] being around 700, villages of the plains average 700 and may reach 2000 (Grothe, 1907: 56).

R
342 House Types. Due to the scarcity of wood and stone in the plains, buildings are generally constructed of wicker and daub, in which technique the Rumanians are masters. The roof is made first, the walls afterwards. The principle posts are first set into the
R ground, then the studs of the outer walls and inner partitions are
[335] spaced at 1 to 2 foot intervals. After the roof has been formed walls are built up. Mud is kneaded down with the feet, mixed with straw, and shaped into lumps that take the place of bricks. These lumps are then set between the studs and left to dry (Stratilesco, 1907: 208). More often walls are of wickerwork, plastered inside and out with a mixture of mud, straw and cowdung to a thickness of 15-25 centimeters (Jänecke, 1918: 10). The rough walls are smoothed out by applying thinner and thinner layers of mud and cowdung mixture. They are then whitewashed inside and out. Floors of timber are recent; the floor is commonly of tamped earth.

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The hipped roof is rather flat and made of corn straw or reed, about 40 centimeters thick. The frame is often of the collar type, horizontal beams supporting opposing rafters (figs. 60a, 64). Pan tiles appear only in isolated instances. In 1918 sheet iron was becoming popular because it was economical and saved time and effort. It was generally painted red-brown. Chimneys are usually inadequate or lacking (Jünecke, 1918: 11).

Every house has an open veranda (prispa) on at least one side which may or may not have a low banister. It is slightly elevated from the ground and is protected by an extension of the eaves. While many Moldavian houses consist of only one room, even the smallest house in Wallachia has an anteroom (tinda). Here the main room is called odaia and has a special stove that is heated by a flue from the hearth in the anteroom. Often an additional odaia is added on the other side of the anteroom forming a symmetrical three-room house. Sometimes additional units are built onto the house on one or both of the narrow sides (figs. 57c, 58). The roof is extended over them in the form of a catslide (fig. 57a). These units are used for storage of agricultural tools, stables, summer kitchens, etc. If two are not sufficient, three or more units may be added. The prispa may be extended alongside the annex; or, when the annex protrudes in front of the house, the prispa may stop at the annex wall (fig. 57c). Occasionally a large house may have two parallel rows of rooms. However, this arrangement complicates the roof construction, which in this case is generally unsuccessful (Jünecke, 1918: 11-16).

The interior is very simple. The anteroom serves for the storage of house implements; maize is kept in wooden boxes and placed along the wall, and there is also a small handmill for grinding maize. A large oven with a hearth in front of it is located at the wall opposite the door (figs. 61c, 58). The anteroom has no ceiling. When two odaias are present one is used for both living and sleeping quarters, while the other is used for the storage of blankets, carpets etc. It is somewhat of a guest-room.

In the Rumanian house special attention has been given to the hearth and stove, and the whole house can be said to have been built around the hearth. The hearth is the showpiece of the room. Arched over the hearth is a decorated mantel on which cooking utensils are placed. Niches on either side of the hearth are provided for the same purpose. Because of the inflammability of the straw roof, the chimney is of brick (these are the only bricks in the house and are made by the peasants themselves). The stoves in the living room are of unusual construction. The most spectacular of these are the columnar stoves which are not only beautiful but also effective. To the main part of the stove have been added graceful clay pipes which are either arranged symmetrically or placed on one side. The better ones resemble organs. The rest of the stove is also made of clay bricks set in mud mortar and covered with a layer of plaster of a lime and sand mixture. Decoration of clay or plaster may be added. These stoves are generally built by Gypsies.

RUMANIA ED I

342 Windows are generally double even in the simpler houses, one opening to the inside, the other to the outside. They are always barred and set in a wooden frame (Jünecke, 1918: 27-28).

342 531 The Rumanian house is noteworthy for its exterior decorations. Special attention and much imagination is given to the woodwork. Much art is evident in the pillars supporting the roof over the veranda (fig. 57d), lintels supporting the eaves, the railings of the veranda and the window and door frames. The corners of houses may have designs in low relief. Painted designs may be placed on the wall in great abundance (figs. 57a, 57b). Because of the lesser opportunity of embellishment through woodwork and because whitewashed walls lend themselves well to painting, painting of the exterior is characteristic of the plains. The Rumanian does not shy away from bright colors. Ultramarine is most popular, for it is [789] said to scare away evil spirits. Combinations of red, blue and [822] yellow are common, and dark green shades are also favored (Jünecke, 1918: 23).

342 [184] [341] The basic difference between the house of the lowlands and those of the mountain region is that the latter are of two-story construction (fig. 64a). Building materials in the mountains are stone and wood rather than wicker and mud. When houses are built on an incline a high stone foundation forms the ground floor (pivnita). This can be used for stables, storage rooms and also as a wine cellar. This form persists even when the terrain is flat. The higher house is appreciated for its better view, greater security and suitability for defense.

While the floor plan often consists of a row of rooms similar to that of the lowlands, a number of changes have taken place. The anteroom with its large hearth is generally left out (fig. 64b). This is due to the fact that the bricks that line the hearth are not available, and the wooden walls are more inflammable than the predominantly mud ones of the plains. Where the hearth is present [354] it is put into a special annex. Instead of the hearth an oven-stove (a combination stove and oven) is used, which permits the main room to be used as living room and sleeping room as well as a kitchen.

The two-room house predominates; due to the absence of the connecting anteroom, each room has a door to the veranda (fordak) (fig. 66). Sometimes the veranda at the top of the stairway is expanded into a hall-like structure (foisor) (fig. 64a) covered by a hipped roof at right angles to the main roof. In summer most activities take place there.

The foundation is made of rocks or of large pebbles from the river. Walls are made of horizontal logs or boards which cross at the corners, each fitting into a notch in the other. A mud or lime plaster is never omitted, and to facilitate this plastering thin laths are nailed diagonally across the beams.

The roof is steeper than in the plains and protrudes further over the house. The support is in the form of a collar. The rafters tend to be too widely spaced, which results in slight bending of the battens; but, while it makes for a weaker roof, this results in softer and more pleasing lines. The four corners are not sharp but tend to be rounded (fig. 62). Wooden shingles are almost exclusively used for roof covering. They are about 15 centimeters wide and may be as long as 3 meters. They overlap two to four times. Shorter shingles form 6-10 rows. The smaller shingles may have their ends in the form of swallow tails or other decorative shapes. The ridge shows a special development. On the windward side the first layer of shingles is made to protrude over the ridgepole (fig. 62). These shingles also have excised patterns and are very ornamental. The ridgepoles may extend slightly over the hip and have a small gabled roof, one shingle in height (fig. 62). This provides an opening for the smoke to escape through. Ornamental poles rise at either end of the ridgepole (fig. 61).

Chimneys are lacking and the smoke may escape through openings at the ridge or otherwise through the roof, which then shows all shades of gray to black. In some areas of Oltenia in southwestern Rumania one finds wooden chimneys (fig. 65). These are made of wicker and daub and are covered with shingles.

A special development in the foothills of the Southern Carpathian Mountains is the privy, which is in the form of an annex located at the end of the veranda (fig. 64b).

In general the buildings in the mountain districts show a greater variation than those of the plains. The woodwork is superior, and shows a great deal of inventiveness. The construction, however, is irregular, sloppy and often not functional. Pillars that carry no weight may be very thick, while those that must support much weight may be much too slender (Jänecke, 1918: 35-43).

Kulas (fig. 67) are found only in the mountainous regions of Oltenia in the district of Mehedinti, Gorj and Râmnicu-Vâlcea. They were built by the boyars, the wealthy landowners. The oldest ones come from the period when the Rumanian rulers were paying tribute to the sultan. The ground plan is a square 7 by 12 meters in length. The width of the walls is 30-70 centimeters. The kula (fig. 67) may have three or four stories, each about 2.5 meters in height. Each story has one room. The ground floor is used for storage; sometimes a well is built into it, and occasionally there is a subterranean escape passage. The upper floors may also be used for storage, but are mainly living quarters. Windows are generally found only on one side; the other walls are provided with loopholes. On the top floor there is generally an open veranda (ferdak) about 3 meters wide, the roof over which is supported by pillars (fig. 67). The exposure is toward the valley and the south. On the side opposite the ferdak there is a simple wooden balcony under the eaves (fig. 67). Many kulas have a privy tower attached to them.

342 • [335] [531] [354] [184] [184] [514] 342 184 [335] 342 712 [184] [556] [175] [312] [514]

342 712 [531] The stairway, about 1.25 meters wide made of massive logs, is generally on the inside of the buildings; when it is located on the outside it leads onto the wooden balcony. The exterior is whitewashed. In addition, the surface is decorated with molded bands around each story division. There may also be a vertical division, thus creating a number of large panels. While these areas are symmetrical, neither they nor the molded bands that enclose them have any relation to the placing of windows or pillars (Jänecke, 1918: 62-63).

342 [175] [563] In 1895 there still existed about 55,000 earth huts (bordei) which were inhabited by the poorest population, generally Gypsies (fig. 63). They are common in the Danubian plain. Over an excavation 1-3 meters deep is placed a gabled roof. The roof is made of boards over which earth is laid. Sometimes reeds are placed over the boards before the earthen cover is added. The entrance is on one of the gabled sides, generally with a southerly exposure, and a window is placed on each gable side (Jänecke, 1918: 4).

343 351 Farm Buildings. In the lowlands the buildings are arranged in no definite order; though generally the house is closest to the road. The corn-house (coşar) is either opposite to or at right angles to the house so that it can be watched. The yard and orchard are surrounded by a fence. The simplest fence is made of wickerwork between wooden poles. More often, however, it is made of boards [556] that have intricate excised designs (fig. 60). The wealthy people [563] may add an imposing gateway with a small door. Flower or vegetable gardens are rare, and the latter are called bulgări, since they are [244] generally kept by immigrant Bulgarians who grow all the vegetables [247] for town consumption (Stratilesco, 1907: 233). The farmstead is [245] surrounded by shady trees, and there is generally a plum orchard at the back of the farm buildings (Jänecke, 1918: 8-9).

[184] In the mountain regions the arrangement of the buildings in the yard differs from that of the lowlands. The stables and other buildings are arranged on the border of the yard in a horseshoe form to serve as protection for the house. The yard is usually very small, and has a strong high palisade with a massive gateway, the whole giving the farm a fortress-like appearance (the author points to the presence of bears in summer and wolves in winter) (Jänecke, 1918: 32-35).

343 [184] In the lowlands there are generally not many additional farm buildings in the yard, and this fact is correlated with the pattern of building additional annexes to the house, a more economical and practical procedure. Stables are of the simplest lathwork or wickerwork, covered with a straw roof. Sheds for the storage of straw, hay and cornstalks are absent, for the latter are stacked into tall round piles in the open. The baking oven for summer use, made of mud and bricks, has a hipped roof supported by four pillars.

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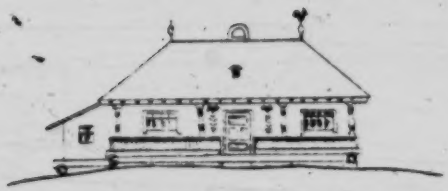
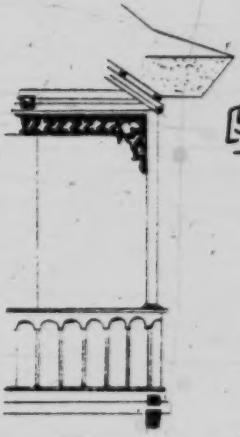


Fig. 57a House of the Lowlands

Fig. 57b Side View of Fig. 57a

Fig. 57c Floor Plan of Fig. 57a
A) Anteroom, B) Living Room
C) Storage Room, D) Veranda



[531]

Fig. 57d Woodwork on the Veranda

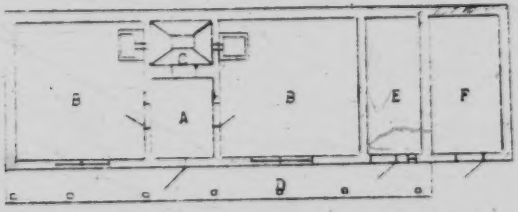


Fig. 58 House with two Annexes. A) Anteroom, B) Living Room, C) Fireplace, D) Veranda, E) Stable, F) Chicken Coop

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Fig. 59a Corn-house

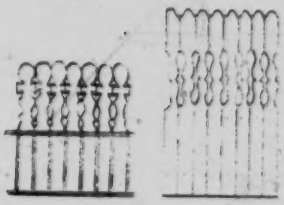

Fig. 60 Fence with Excised Designs

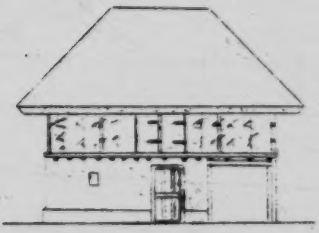

Fig. 59b Front View of Fig. 59a

Fig. 61 Decorations at End of Ridgepole

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Fig. 62 Arrangement of Shingles at Ridgepole

[342]

Fig. 59c Floor Plan of Fig. 59a
A) Stable
B) Cart-shed

Fig. 63 Semi-subterranean House of the Danube Plain

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Fig. 64a Mountain House

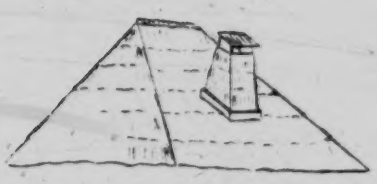

Fig. 65 Chimney in Oltenia

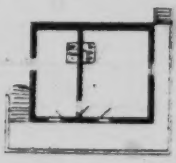

Fig. 66 Floor Plan of Mountain House

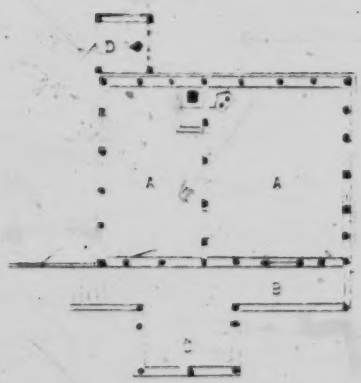

Fig. 64b Floor Plan of Fig. 64a
A) Living Room, B) Veranda
C) Foişor, D) Privy

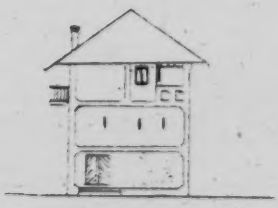

Fig. 67 Kula

[P 86-Q]